

**FEBRUARY 12 – MEETING 7  
VOLUME 27**

The Ross County Board of Commissioners met on this day, February 12, 2024, in regular session.

Commissioner Dwight Garrett called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., with Commissioners James E. Lowe and Jack A. Everson, in attendance.

Commissioner Garrett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES APPROVED**

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, the minutes of the February 5, 2024, meeting, be approved as submitted.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

**BILLS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT**

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, the following bills of the county be approved for payment:

DEPARTMENT	DESCRIPTION	PAY TO NAME	TOTAL VALUE				
Auditor	2024 Cebco Insurance Payments	CEBCO	1016800.49	Building Department	Contract Services	Treasurer, State of Ohio	482.87
Auditor	Utilities	Litter Quality Propane Gas	697.2	Building Department	Contract Services	Treasurer, State of Ohio	206.66
Auditor	Utilities	Ross Co. Water Company	115.32	Building Department	contract services 10% zoning/plann	City of Chillicothe Building Dept.	1089.81
Auditor	Utilities	Chillicothe Utilities Dept.	405.56	Building Department	Supplies	Quill Corporation	61.57
Auditor	Atty Fees- Juvenile Court	Barrington, James E.	1557.5	Building Department	Contract Services	Treasurer, State of Ohio	5.35
Auditor	Atty Fees- Juvenile Court	Rutherford, Chase Colin	967.5	Building Department	Contract Services	Treasurer, State of Ohio	7.65
Auditor	Board of Tax Appeals/Common Pleas	Rich & Gillis Law Group LLC	1045	Building Department	Contract Services	Shelley, Joshua	3200
Auditor	2024 Ohio Public Defender Payment	Office of the Ohio Public Defender	3602.08	Building Department	Contract Services	Shelley, Joshua	2837.5
Auditor	MAIL MACHINE LEASE	Pitney Bowes, Inc	2248.41	Building Department	Other Expenses	Glacier Mountain Bottled Water	8.5
Auditor	2024 MAIL MACHINE SUPPLIES	Pitney Bowes Inc	265.59	Clerk of Courts	APPEALS COURT MAILINGS	UPS	67.12
Auditor	2024 Service Agreement	Fairfield Computer Services, LLC	165	Commissioners	Misc. Repairs	Integrated Protection Services	337.5
Auditor	2025 Valuation Contract Payments	Appraisal Research Corp.	15383.7	Commissioners	Water 847 Fairgrounds Road	Ross Co. Water Company	26.87
Auditor	VIP Cloud Annual Fee 1/1/24- 12/31	Software Solutions, Inc.	13096.8	Commissioners	Water 20 Old Elm Road	Ross Co. Water Company	25.77
Auditor	annual software support contract fee	Software Solutions, Inc.	38062.58	Commissioners	Water 1226, 1606, 1294 Stone Rd.	Ross Co. Water Company	79.51
Auditor	Grant- OSU Extension Service	OSU Extension - Ross County	75000	Commissioners	SCJDC Monthly Services	Juvenile Detention Center	69156.4
Auditor	long distance	First Communications, LLC	45.07	Commissioners	Misc. Supplies - Jail	Lowe's	863.85
Auditor	Accuglobe Data maint fee Quarterly	Digital Data Tech, Inc.	412.5	Commissioners	Misc. Supplies AP	Lowe's	80.74
Auditor	Atty Fees- Juvenile Court	Rutherford, Chase Colin	1080	Commissioners	Misc. Supplies	Lowe's	567.17
Auditor	Atty Fees- Juvenile Court	Rutherford, Chase Colin	735	Commissioners	Fire Monitoring Courthouse	Integrated Protection Services	378
Auditor	Atty Fees- Juvenile Court	Rutherford, Chase Colin	547.5	Commissioners	Intrusion monitoring Western Ave.	Integrated Protection Services	102
Auditor	Atty Fees- Juvenile Court	Barrington, James E.	2592.5	Commissioners	Monitoring Fire System Jail	Integrated Protection Services	378
Auditor	Atty Fees- Juvenile Court	Bunstine Law Office	1335.86	Commissioners	Intrusion & Fire Monitoring Airport	Integrated Protection Services	600
Auditor	Atty Fees- Juvenile Court	Fried, Claire R. Attorney At Law	315	Commissioners	Water 33 Main St. LCNB	Chillicothe Utilities Dept.	190.16
Auditor	2024 Ohio Public Defender Payment	Office of the Ohio Public Defender	48235	Commissioners	Document Shredding	Southern Ohio Shredding LLC	417
Auditor	supplies for auditor upstairs	Amazon Capital Services	198.01	Commissioners	Misc. Supplies	Central Auto Parts	53.99
Auditor	Utilities service	Horizon Chillicothe Telephone	5252.8	Commissioners	Misc. Supplies SC	Sherwin Williams Company	40.8
Automatic Data Processing Board	2024 Westside Media	Westside Media	372.75	Commissioners	Misc. repairs/parts	W. W. Grainger, Inc.	256.33
Automatic Data Processing Board	Blue Light Blocking Screen	Amazon Capital Services	116.81	Commissioners	Misc. Supplies SC	State Electric Supply, Inc.	121.56
Automatic Data Processing Board	2024 Horizon	Horizon Chillicothe Telephone	5044.23	Commissioners	Janitorial Supplies	DTB Distributors, Inc.	519.9
Board of Elections	Service Agreement/Monthly bill	Go2ITGroup	1824.44	Commissioners	Sludge Removal UHS	Bud's Septic Tank Cleaning LLC	500
Board of Elections	Service Agreement/Monthly bill	Go2ITGroup	2000.58	Commissioners	Dumpster Service 104 & Stone road	Waste Management of Ohio	422.97
Board of Elections	Monthly Water	The Water Express	40.25	Commissioners	Dumpster Service 15 N. Paint	Waste Management of Ohio	241.46
Building Department	contract services	TOOLE & ASSOCIATES	140	Commissioners	Dumpster Service Western Ave.	Waste Management of Ohio	921.26
Commissioners	Misc Supplies	Central Center Hardware	141.39	Commissioners	Water	Glacier Mountain Bottled Water	14
Commissioners	Water 475 Western Ave.	Chillicothe Utilities Dept.	740.17	Juvenile Court	OHMAS CONTRACT	King, Kristen	1020
Coroner	Rent and Gas	Central Center, LLC	711.5	Juvenile Court	ELECTRONIC, GPS, AOD MONITORING	Peachtree Electronic Monitoring, LLC	38
Coroner	Livery Removal Services	Haller Funeral Home, LLC	475	Juvenile Court	Water Account#014055	Glacier Mountain Bottled Water	25.5
Coroner	Contract Services-Website	Westside Media	30	Juvenile Court	Probation - Office Supplies	Amazon Capital Services	422.62
Coroner	Various Needs	Amazon Capital Services	51.46	Juvenile Court	Juvenile Misc. Other	Horizon Chillicothe Telephone	100
Coroner	uniforms	Moccasin Creek Tactical	283	Juvenile Court	Archive Scanning - 10k/month (9 m	Make Paper Digital, LLC	10000
Coroner	answering service	Thomas, Jodi L.	140	Juvenile Court	Out-of-Home Placements	Abraxas Ohio	7750
Dog Warden	contract repairs	Jim Davis Tire Center USE VENDOR	24	Juvenile Court	Cell Phones	Verizon Wireless	559.3
Dog Warden	other expenses	Horizon Chillicothe Telephone	134.08	Juvenile Court	Juvenile Misc. Other	Glacier Mountain Bottled Water	23.5
Emergency Management	website/accounting hosting	Alexander, Sharon	56	Juvenile Court	Juvenile - Office Supplies	Amazon Capital Services	112.6
Emergency Management	various supplies/operating expense	Mark Thompson	14.7	Juvenile Court	PAX PROGRAM ADAMH	Paint Valley ADAMH Board	1492.5
Emergency Management	operations-supplies	Amazon Capital Services	537.12	Juvenile Court	IV-E Misc. Other	Peachtree Electronic Monitoring, LLC	798
Emergency Management	fuel/maintenance-county vehicle	US Bank NA	223.29	Juvenile Court	OHMAS OTHER	King, Kristen	119.82
Emergency Management	communications account	Horizon Chillicothe Telephone	149.51	Juvenile Court	LIGHTHOUSE CJS	Lighthouse Youth Services	5416.67
Engineer	Eq. Parts, repairs, etc.	Ace Truck Body, Inc.	3709.58	Juvenile Court	LYS DAYTREATMENT DIGITAL	Lighthouse Youth Services	2916.67
Engineer	Drug Testing	Adena Health System	456	Law Library	office supplies for law library	Office City Express	1166.41
Engineer	Eq. Parts, repairs, etc.	Advance Auto Parts	696.24	Law Library	2024 PHONE SERVICE	Horizon Chillicothe Telephone	69.77
Engineer	Eq. Parts, repairs, etc.	WFCB-Carter Lumber Pro	22.43	Planning Commission	HOME CHIP 2022 Admin B-C-22-1C	Ohio Regional Development Corp	4666
Engineer	Eq. Parts, repairs, etc.	Central Auto Parts	1353.04	Planning Commission	CDBG CHIP 2022 Admin B-C22-1CN	Ross County Treasurer	3000
Engineer	Cleaning Garage	Do It Right Cleaning Service, LLC	600	Planning Commission	CDBG CHIP	Ohio Regional Development Corp	833
Engineer	Eq. Parts, repairs, etc.	Fastenal Company	197.28	Planning Commission	CDBG CHIP 2022 Admin C-C-22-1CN	Ohio Regional Development Corp	1000
Engineer	Repairs to mower deck	Houser & Son Farm Equipment	5586	Planning Commission	Contract Services	Westside Media	75
Engineer	Eq. Parts, repairs, etc.	Houser & Son Farm Equipment	540.68	Probate Court	Supplies	Glacier Mountain Bottled Water	12
Engineer	Eq. Parts, repairs, etc.	Bell, Larry L.	196.7	Probate Court	Probate - Office Supplies	Amazon Capital Services	298.96
Engineer	Eq. Parts, repairs, etc.	Lowe's	342.16	Probate Court	Probate - Office Supplies	Office City Express	1999.6
Engineer	Eq. Parts & Repairs	Matco Tools	197.3	Probate Court	Probate - Office Supplies	Safeguard Business Systems	134.66
Engineer	Eq. Parts, repairs, etc.	Matco Tools	34.4	Probate Court	Indigent Guardian Attorney Fees	Rutherford, Chase Colin	200
Engineer	AFSCME Insurance	Ohio AFSCME Care Plan	495	Probate Court	Indigent Guardian Attorney Fees	Cutright, James K.	600
Engineer	Eq. Parts	Rush Truck Centers of Ohio	1884.54	Recorder	Ross County Archives	Southern Ohio Shredding LLC	340.55
Engineer	Equipment Parts	Rush Truck Centers of Ohio	6859.31	Recorder	Contract Services	Kofile Technologies	2642.4
Engineer	Excavator	Southeastern Equipment Co.	1790.37	Recorder	Other	Glacier Mountain Bottled Water	44.5
Engineer	Sign Shop VinylMaster Cut Design	USCutter Inc	685.85	Recorder	Contract Services	Modern Office Methods, Inc.	76.44
Engineer	Eq. Parts, repairs, etc.	Worly Plumbing Supply, Inc.	55.84	Ross County Court System	Graduation award for drug court	Sports Plus	48.99
Ross County Court System	Copier Printer Leases for General D	GFC Leasing	1270.87	Ross County Court System	Support services for Jan-Dec. 2024	Courtview Justice Solutions, Inc.	42319
Ross County Court System	network support services for Jan 20	Compass Integration LLC	2948.44	Sheriff	Contract Services	Escamilla, Vanessa	320
Ross County Court System	network expense reimb-jan	Compass Integration LLC	3653.47	Sheriff	medical services	Stericycle, Inc.	157.5
Ross County Court System	fiber/internet service Feb 24	Horizon Chillicothe Telephone	1426.36	Sheriff	medical services	Adena Health System	454.34
Ross County Court System	Content Mgmt. System for Rosscount	Westside Media	30	Sheriff	Other Expenses	Ross County Health District	365.45
Sheriff	Contract Services	Cottrill-Baskerville, Treiva J.	1844.8	Sheriff	other expenses	Penwell, Julia	2733.94
Sheriff	other expenses 2022 JG A01 6494	Horizon Chillicothe Telephone	262.33	Sheriff	gas	Wex Bank	16093.68
Sheriff	Fuel - Subgrant 2022-DL-LEF-5811	Wex Bank	694.77	Sheriff	other expenses	Indigital Telecom	1462.9
Sheriff	other expenses 2022-DL-LEF-5811	Wex Bank	213.61	Sheriff	Utilities	Horizon Chillicothe Telephone	158
Sheriff	other expenses 2022-DL-LEF-5811	Cutler's Towing LLC	150	Sheriff	Utilities	Horizon Chillicothe Telephone	57.74
Sheriff	other expenses 2022 JG A01 6494	Rumpke Of Ohio, Inc	61.14	Sheriff	Utilities	Horizon Network Partners	511
Sheriff	Training Cost	Ohio Peace Officer Training Academ	350	Sheriff	Contract Services	Southern Ohio Shredding LLC	51.5
Sheriff	other expenses	Hometown Auto, LLC	514.14	Sheriff	Contract Services	Michael A. Murphy, Ph.D.	390
Sheriff	Contract Services	SmartSafety Software Inc	1861	Sheriff	Contract Services	Michael A. Murphy, Ph.D.	195
Sheriff	Contract Services	PTS of America, LLC	2120	Sheriff	Contract Services	North Fork Animal Clinic	67.75
Sheriff	costs of equip	Stop Stick, Ltd.	3950	Sheriff	other expenses	US Safety Gear, Inc.	109.98
Sheriff	Other Expenses	Amazon Capital Services	272.95	Sheriff	other expenses	Davis Tire of Chillicothe	358.8
Sheriff	other expenses	Tim's Tires & Accessories	214.99	Sheriff	other expenses	Hometown Auto, LLC	189.9
Sheriff	medical services	MobileXUSA	345	Sheriff	other expenses	Amazon Capital Services	80.54
Sheriff	Other Expenses	Tim's Tires & Accessories	200	Sheriff	other expenses	Amazon Capital Services	22.97
Sheriff	medical services	MOBILEXUSA	2150	Sheriff	other expenses	Coughlin Ford of Circleville	1484.71
Sheriff	Training Cost	Jivden, Jerry	296	Sheriff	other expenses	Central Center Hardware	20.95
Sheriff	other expenses	Ratcliff, Roger	136.3	Sheriff	Utilities	Chillicothe Utilities Dept.	3794.18
Sheriff	medical services	Columbus Radiology Corp.	207.97	Treasurer	Training Cost	Blue To Gold, LLC	378
Sheriff	Contract Service	Jonina Johnson	640	Treasurer	Service fees for billing	Smartbill Ltd	375.64
Sheriff	medical services	Adena Medical Group, LLC	7.9	Treasurer	Various Supplies	Printex Printing	100
Sheriff	Supplies	Office City Express	12.65	Veterans Service Commission	Various Supplies	Smartbill Ltd	3637.45
Sheriff	costs of supplies	Office City Express	13.48	VOCA	mortgage assistance	Kemba Financial Credit Union	832.57
Sheriff	Supplies	Office City Express	1.97	VOCA	Telephone	T-Mobile USA Inc	24.09
Sheriff	other expenses	DTB Distributors, Inc.	597.78	VOCA	telephone	Horizon Technology	9.95
Sheriff	Other Expenses	DTB Distributors, Inc.	1147.47	Wellness	supplies	U.S. Postmaster	408
Sheriff	other expenses	DTB Distributors, Inc.	92.99		wellness program	Carroll, Marcia G.	65
Sheriff	Other Expenses	Superior Uniform Sales, Inc	29.99				
Sheriff	Contract Services	Welch, David Michael	320				
							<b>\$1,683,896.23</b>

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

**THEN & NOW CERTIFICATES APPROVED**

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, the Ross County Board of Commissioners approve "Then & Now" Certificates, dated January 29 through February 12 2024, in the amount of \$25,573.16 prepared by the Office of the Ross County Auditor and certified by the auditor as to the appropriation of funds for the purpose of encumbering the sum of the contract( s) or order( s) outlined therein, or the imminent collection of funds for credit to the appropriated fund(s) of the county, and as to the availability of funds for transfer within the appropriate department(s).

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

**APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS**

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, \$45,000.00 be appropriated from Special Revenue into account code 233-49-89-7550 Other Expenses Special Revenue, per a request of February 12, 2024 from Ross County Board of DD.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

**ASSET DISPOSAL**

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, the Ross County Board of Commissioners approve an Asset Disposal form submitted by the Ross County Probate Juvenile Archives, for disposal of the following surplus property of the county as indicated:

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	TAG/ SERIAL	METHOD OF DISPOSAL
1	Film File Cabinet	5899	Surplus Property
1	L Shaped Deck	6557	Surplus Property
1	Cabinet	364	Surplus Property
1	Metal Cabinet	431	Surplus Property
1	Conference Table	137	Surplus Property
1	Office Chair	12897	Surplus Property
2	Brother Printers	17707, 17708	Surplus Property
1	Wood Cabinet	N/A	Surplus Property
3	HP Printers	4301, 4302, 4303	Surplus Property
1	Folding Table	N/A	Transfer to Janitorial

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

**TIME SHEET APPROVED - COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, the Ross County Board of Commissioners approve the time sheet submitted by Bradford M. Cosenza, County Administrator for the pay period ending February 9, 2024.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

**COMMERCIAL LEASE AGREEMENT**

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to enter into a contract with Trinity Properties LLC for a storage space located 32-34 East Second Street, Chillicothe Ohio at an annual fee of \$7,200.00.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

**CANON USA LEASE AGREEMENT**

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, Mr. Garrett by authorizes to sign, on the Commissioners behalf, the NASPO ValuePoint Master Agreement for Copiers and Managed Print Services led by the State of Colorado for use by the Participating Entity listed above (Ross County Board of Commissioners).

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

**GORDON FLESCH LEASING MASTER AGREEMENT**

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, Mr. Garrett be authorized to sign, on the Commissioners behalf, the Master Lease Agreement with Gordon Flesch Company Inc., d/b/a GFC Leasing for equipment, maintenance and new equipment for \$198.35 monthly.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

**2023 WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND PAYMENT REQUEST**

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, Mr. Garrett be authorizes to sign, on the Commissioners behalf, a payment request for the WPCLF Loan Fund, for 3 replacement/upgrades located 7081 St Rt. 180, Kingston and 287 Seney Road Chillicothe, for a total of \$11,915.72, with 3% for administration for the Board of Health.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

**EQUITABLE SHARING AGREEMENT AND CERTIFICATION**

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to enter into the Equitable Sharing Agreement that authorizes the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Treasury to share federally forfeited property with participating state and local law enforcement agencies. The exercise of this authority is discretionary and limited by statute.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

**REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 15 RESCHEDULED**

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, the regular meeting of the Ross County Board of Commissioners, of February 19, 2024, be rescheduled to February 20, 2024.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

The following proclamation was passed at the regular meeting of the Ross County Board of Commissioners on February 12, 2024, with Dwight A. Garrett, James E. Lowe, and Jack A. Everson in attendance:

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

**WHEREAS:** Black History Month grew out of the establishment, in 1926, of Negro History Week by Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of African American Life and History and in 1976 became a month long celebration; and

**WHEREAS:** spurred by growing racial violence, particularly the 1908 race riots in Springfield, Illinois a group of African American leaders joined together to form the National Association of the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); and

**WHEREAS:** the Black History Month 2024 theme “African Americans and the Arts” explores the key influence African American have had in the field of ‘visual and performing arts literature, fashion, folklore, language, film, music, architecture, culinary and other forms of cultural expression; and

**WHEREAS:** the County of Ross is proud to honor the history and influence of African Americans in our community, throughout our state, and nation.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** we call upon the public to seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans, and the Ross County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim February 2024 to be

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

We encourage all citizens to celebrate the diverse heritage and culture, and continue efforts to create a world that is more inclusive, peaceful, and prosperous for all.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

The following resolution was passed at the regular meeting of the Ross County Board of Commissioners on February 12, 2024, with Dwight A. Garrett, James E. Lowe, and Jack A. Everson in attendance:

**Resolution 007-24**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ROSS COUNTY TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE COUNTY OF ROSS FOR THE REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF HOME SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEMS:**

**Whereas**, the County of Ross seeks to repair and/or replace failing home sewage treatment systems; and

**Whereas**, the County of Ross intends to apply to the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) for the repair and/or replacement of failing home sewage treatment systems; and

**Whereas**, the Ohio Water Pollution Control Loan Fund requires the government authority to pass legislation for application of a loan and the execution of a WPCLF assistance agreement; now therefore be it

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Ross, Ohio:

**SECTION 1.** That Dwight A Garrett be and is hereby authorized to apply for a WPCLF assistance agreement, sign all documents for and enter into a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for the repair and/or replacement of failing home sewage treatment systems on behalf of the County of Ross, Ohio.

**SECTION 2.** That is resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

The following resolution was passed at the regular meeting of the Ross County Board of Commissioners on February 12, 2024, with Dwight A. Garrett, James E. Lowe, and Jack A. Everson in attendance:

**RESOLUTION 008-24**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**COUNTY OF ROSS, OHIO**

The Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") of County of Ross, Ohio (the "County") met in regular session on February 12, 2024, at the offices of the Board, 2 North Paint Street, Suite H, Chillicothe, Ohio, with the following members present:

**PORT AUTHORITY CREATION RESOLUTION**

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CREATION OF THE ROSS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY, PROVIDING FOR APPOINTMENTS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SUCH PORT AUTHORITY, AND PROVIDING FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF SUCH PORT AUTHORITY.**

**WHEREAS**, under authority of Ohio Revised Code Sections 4582.21 to 4582.99 (the "Act"), a county may, by resolution, create a port authority which shall be a body corporate and politic, have the powers and jurisdiction enumerated in the Act and have territorial limits coterminous with the territorial limits of the county creating the port authority, subject, however, to the territorial limits of any pre-existing port authority; and

**WHEREAS**, this board of county commissioners (the "Board of County Commissioners") of the County of Ross, Ohio (the "County") desires and determines that it is necessary to enhance, foster, aid, provide or promote transportation, economic development, housing, recreation, education, government operations, culture and research; and

**WHEREAS**, there was no prior existing port authority established by the County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners desires and determines it to be necessary to create a port authority to serve the territory of the County for purposes of enhancing, fostering, providing or promoting transportation, economic development, housing, recreation, education, government operations, culture and research; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Act, the Board of County Commissioners is to appoint the members of the board of directors of a port authority created by the exclusive action of a county;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ROSS, OHIO THAT:**

**Section 1.** The Board of County Commissioners hereby makes the determinations set out in the preamble to this resolution, and further determines and declares that a port authority to be designated and known as the "Ross County Port Authority" (the "Port Authority") and further described below is hereby created pursuant to the Act.

**Section 2.** The Port Authority shall have territorial limits coterminous with the boundaries of the County as they now or hereafter exist. The Port Authority shall be a body corporate and politic and, except as described below, shall have the powers and jurisdiction now or hereafter given to it by the Act. The exercise of those powers and jurisdiction by the Port Authority are hereby deemed to be essential government functions of the State of Ohio. Notwithstanding the foregoing and Section 4582.31(A)(17) of the Act, the Port Authority is not granted, and therefore shall not have, the power to exercise the right of eminent domain to appropriate any land, rights, rights-of-way, franchises, easements, or other property.

**Section 3.** It is necessary that the Port Authority be governed by a five member board of directors (the "Board of Directors") each of whom shall serve for a term of four years, provided that the Board of Directors initially shall be composed of members having terms of office commencing on the effective date of their appointment and expiring as follows: one member shall have a term of office expiring December 31, 2024; one member shall have a term of office expiring December 31, 2025; one member shall have a term of office expiring December 31, 2026; and two members shall each have a term of office expiring December 31, 2027. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall be qualified electors of, or shall have their businesses or places of employment in, the County for a period of at least three years next preceding their appointment. All of the members of the Board of Directors shall be appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. Upon the resignation or removal of a member of the Board of Directors, or the expiration of the term of office of a member of the Board of Directors, a new member of the Board of Directors shall be appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. Any person appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors shall be appointed to only the unexpired term of that vacancy. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any member of the Board of Directors (including a person appointed to fill a vacancy) may be eligible for reappointment to the Board of Directors.

**Section 4.** Each member of the Board of Directors shall serve without compensation, but expenses incurred by any member of the Board of Directors may be paid or reimbursed as the Board of Directors may determine. No person appointed to the Board of Directors shall hold any other public office except that of notary public, member of the State militia or member of a reserve component of the United States Armed Forces.

**Section 5.** Any member of the Board of Directors may be removed by the Board of County Commissioners for misfeasance, nonfeasance, or malfeasance in office. No member of the Board of Directors shall be interested in the profits or emoluments of any contract, job, work or service of the Port Authority. Any member of the Board of Directors who is so interested in such profits or emoluments shall be deemed guilty of malfeasance for purposes of this Section 5. Any member of the Board of Directors shall scrupulously follow Ohio's ethics laws and the adopted policy regarding conflicts of interest adopted by the Board of Directors.

**Section 6.** Upon the appointment of the third member to the Board of Directors, the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, after consultation with the individuals appointed as directors of the Port Authority at that time, shall establish the place, time, and manner of the organizational meeting of the Board of Directors and shall give notice of the time, place, and manner of the organizational meeting of the Board of Directors in the manner established for giving notice of regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners. The Clerk shall also give notice, at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting, of the time, place and purpose of the organizational meeting of the Board of Directors to any news media to which notice of special meetings of the Board of County Commissioners is required to be given, or which have requested notice of such meeting. The Board of Directors at such organizational meeting shall, in accordance with the Act elect one of its members as chairperson and the other as vice-chairperson and shall designate their terms of office, and shall appoint a secretary, who need not be a member of the Board of Directors.

**Section 7.** Subject to compliance with the Act and any applicable provisions of law or contract, the Port Authority may be dissolved or its powers amended at any time by the passage of a resolution by the Board of County Commissioners.

**Section 8.** The Board of County Commissioners finds and determines that all formal actions of the Board of County Commissioners concerning and relating to the passage of this resolution were taken in an open meeting of the Board of County Commissioners and that all deliberations of the Board of County Commissioners and of any committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**Section 9.** This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption, provided that the Port Authority shall exist from and after the date of the organizational meeting of the Board of Directors referred to in Section 6.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

The following resolution was passed at the regular meeting of the Ross County Board of Commissioners on February 12, 2024, with Dwight A. Garrett, James E. Lowe, and Jack A. Everson in attendance:

**RESOLUTION 010-24**

The Board of County Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio, met in regular session on the 12th day of February, 2024, at the office of the Board of County Commissioners. The following members were present: Dwight A. Garrett, James E. Lowe, and Jack A. Everson.

**WHEREAS**, the Ross County Board of Commissioners enter into a sub-grant agreement with the South Central Ohio Job and Family Services for American Rescue Plan Act Funding through the US Department of the Treasury;

**WHEREAS**, the Ross County Board of Commissioners agree to provide American Rescue Act funds to the South Central Ohio Job and Family Services to cover operating deficits caused by COVID19 in relation to child placement in foster care in Ross County;

**WHEREAS**, the Ross County Board of Commissioners will sub-grant the Scioto Valley Habitat for Humanity \$250,000.00 to provide a higher level placement of children experiencing behavioral and mental health issues associated with the COVID19 Pandemic;

**WHEREAS**, the South Central Ohio Job and Family Services shall provide monthly reporting as required as part of the sub-grant agreement;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, this resolution shall be effective February 12, 2024 and expire December 31, 2026;

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

The following resolution was passed at the regular meeting of the Ross County Board of Commissioners on February 12, 2024, with Dwight A. Garrett, James E. Lowe, and Jack A. Everson in attendance:

**RESOLUTION 110-24 RESOLUTION 009-24 (Replacing Resolution 82-130 & 82-131)**

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING NECESSARY REGULATIONS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND ALLOCATION OF THE ROSS COUNTY LODGING EXCISE TAX, HERETOFORE ENACTED ON JUNE 1, 1982**

This Resolution is filed in the office of the Ross County Board of Commissioners and the Ross County Auditor.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes. Motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Auditor Lehner discussed the possibility of increasing the allowed accrual of comp time for his staff. According to ORC 124.18 the maximum hours that can be accrued for compensatory time is 240, which is what the County already allows.

OVRDC First Round Caucus meeting was held.

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Dwight A. Garrett, President, adjourned the regular meeting of February 12, 2024, at 11:23 a.m.

Board of Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio

  
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Dwight A. Garrett, President

  
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James E. Lowe, Vice President

  
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Jack A. Everson, Commissioner